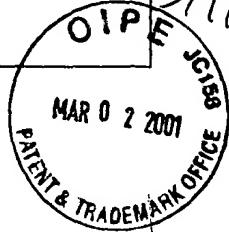


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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 28, 2001.

Karen LePari
Karen LePari



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Alessandro Sette, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/017,743

Filing Date: 3 February 1998

For: HLA BINDING PEPTIDES AND THEIR
USES

Examiner: Marianne DiBrino, Ph.D.

Group Art Unit: 1644

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein mailed 31 August 2000, time for response to which was set to expire 30 November 2000. A petition for an extension of time of three (3) months until 28 February 2001 in which to respond is attached hereto along with the required fee. Claims 8-70 were pending in the application; the considered claims were rejected. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

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